

**REMARKS**

Claims 19 and 21-36 are pending in this application. Claim 19 has been amended, and claims 48 and 49 have been added by the present Amendment. No new matter is added by the amendment to claim 19 or by the addition of claims 48 and 49.

**REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of (1) claims 19, 21-28, 30-32, 35 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over International Patent Application Pub. No. WO/38951 ("Mathias") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,871,356 ("Chang"); (2) claim 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mathias and Chang as applied to claim 19, and further in view of French Patent Application Pub. No. 2,817,812 ("Baret"); (3) claim 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mathias and Chang as applied to claim 19, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,982,996 ("Vottero-Fin"); and (4) claim 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mathias and Chang as applied to claim 19, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,102,476 ("May").

Applicant has amended claim 19 to the form it was in prior to the January 11, 2008 Office Action. In the January 11, 2008 Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 19 only on the basis of double patenting and did not reject claim 19 over any art pursuant to section 102 or 103. Because the double patenting rejections have been obviated by the filing of Terminal Disclaimers, Applicant submits that claim 19, as amended, is in condition for allowance.

Further, for at least the reason that claims 21-36 depend from claim 19, claims 21-36 are submitted to be in condition for allowance.

As such, Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of claims 19 and 21-36 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

**DEPENDENT CLAIMS**

Applicant has not independently addressed the rejections of all the dependent claims because Applicant submits that, in view of the amendments to the claims presented herein and, for at least similar reasons as why the independent claim from which the dependent claims depend is believed allowable as discussed, *supra*, the dependent claims are also allowable. Applicant however, reserves the right to address any individual rejections of the dependent claims should such be necessary or appropriate.

**NEW CLAIMS**

Applicant respectfully submits new claims 48 and 49 for the Examiner's consideration.

An early and favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any further questions or comments, the Examiner may telephone Applicant's Attorney to reach a prompt disposition of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Michael F. Morano".

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